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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00344 201437 Z

46
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
---------- 100431
R 201351 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9819
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0344

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS XF ASEC LY
SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS

REF: A) TRIPOLI 0305 NOTAL
B) STATE 47706 NOTAL
C) PARIS 6672 NOTAL

1. PURSUANT TO HIS INTENTION REPORTED REFTEL A), FRENCH AMB GEORGY MARCH 17 CALLED ON FONMIN KIKHYA TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS IN TRIPOLI. GEORGY TOOK WITH HIM TWO OF HIS SENIOR COLLLEAGUES, ALGERIAN AMB KAAFI AND GREEK AMB PAPADAKIS. THE FOLLOWING REPORT BASED ON GEORGY' S REMARKS TO ME ON SOCIAL OCCASION MARCH 19 AND PAPADAKIS' EXPOSITION TO ME DURING CALL HIS OFFICE MARCH 20.

2. GEORGY SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, REFERRED TO KHARTOUM AND POINTED OUT LACK OF PROTECTION FOR DIPLOMATS AT TRIPOLI GENERALLY. HE SAID THAT WHILE A FEW EMBASSIES HAD THEIR OWN GUARDS, MOST WERE COMPLETELY
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RELIANT ON THE PROTECTION OF THE LARG. HE WISHED TO
EMPHASIZE THAT THE CORPS HELD THE LARG RESONSIBLE FOR
ITS PROTECTION. ACCORDINGLY, HE REQUESTED THAT AT A
MINIMUM A UNIFORMED POLICEMAN BE PLACED AT EACH CHANCERY
AND COM RESIDENCE.

3. KIKHYA REPLIED THAT THE LARG, OF COURSE, ACCEPTS
FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS.
HE DID NOT THINK THERE COULD BE ANY PROBLEM IN THE
LAR. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LARG WAS FRIENDLY TO THE
PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT, AND IN ANY CASE " THE COMMANDO
ORGANIZATIONS' HQTRS HERE ARE STRICTLYCONTROLLED" BY THE LNZ.
HE WOULD SPEAK TO THE MININT ABOUT THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL
POLICE PROTECTION FOR DIPLOMATS AND THEN WILL REPORT

BACK TO GEORGY. HE FORESAW THAT THERE MAY BE A PROBLEM
IN PROVIDING SO MANY POLICEMEN, " AS WE HAVE A SHORTAGE
OF THEM".

4. KIKHYA DID NOT TOUCH UPON THE BROADER ISSUE OF
LARG SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS GENERALLY, I. E.
APART FROM THE NARROW QUESTION OF PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS
AT TRIPOLI. GEORGY DID NOT TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED
BY KIKHYA' S REFERENCE TO THE LARG' S FRIENDLY RELATIONS
WITH THE COMMANDO ORGANIZATIONS TO BROADEN THE CONVERSAT-
ION AND POINT OUT THE LARG' S SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
IN THIS CONNECTION.

5. GOERGY' S VERSION WAS THAT KIKHYA SAID THE LARG WAS
" A FRIEND OF THE BSO". WITHOUT REVEALING TO PAPADAKIS
THAT I HAD TALKED TO GEORGY, I CHECKED THIS POINT OUT
VERY THOROUGHLY; PAPADAKIS REPEATED THAT THE PHRASE
USED WAS " COMMANDO ORGANIZATIONS" AND SAID AT NO TIME DURING
THE INTERVIEW WAS BLACK SEPTEMBER MENTIONED.

7. COMMENT: WHILE GOERGY AND CO. MISSED A GOOD
OPPORTUNITY TO PRESS HOME THEIR POINT EVEN FURTHER,
IT SOUNDS AS IF THE DEMARCHE WAS SALUTARY AS FAR
AS IT WENT.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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